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An electronic newsletter from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library
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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

Library Card Month

The municipal councils of both Cape Breton and Victoria Counties have declared April as Library Card Month. CBRL is introducing its new library card at this time. The Cape Breton Post in cooperation with the library will be holding special events to highlight the wealth of information available from the local library during this time. Last year there were more than 1,300 registrations during April and this year the goal is 1,100.

The Cape Breton Post will provide promotion including a book report contest in which they will publish the winners in the newspaper and a daily piece that lists a selection of library related tidbits. There will also be two contests. To receive a ballot for the adult contest, residents can simply register as a new member, renew their membership, or for current library members, bring in a new member during April. The first prize is a one year

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subscription to the Cape Breton Post. For the children's contest, the Post will run a piece of the new library card on different days and children can piece the card together and give the completed card and ballot in to their library branch. At the end of April, each branch will choose a winner from the entries, and the prize is a canvas library bag containing a variety of gifts.

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CEHRL)

Events & Publicity

The Youth Department has a winter reading program called *Get Carried Away with Books*. Stickers, bookmarks and crossword puzzles, all with an "Ants at a Picnic" theme, were some of the incentives for the young people coming to the Truro Branch to read. It is hoped that these children will continue to use the library and become involved in the summer reading club. Teen Friends of the Library contributed to March break activities at the Truro Branch by hosting a morning program with a Dr. Seuss theme.

For the third year in a row, the Adult Department sponsored a women's series and this year it was called *Healthy, Wealthy and Wise*. The women speakers in the series included the Director of Central Nova Women's Center; Co-ordinator for the Colchester Micro Enterprise; an investor consultant from Clarica TM; and a lawyer from one of the local firms. Each year the topics vary slightly but the most popular topics such as the one on wills are maintained.

Colchester Regional Hospital held a skatethon at the local arena. Teams from businesses are encouraged to participate to raise funds for special needs at the hospital. This was the third year that the Colchester-East Hants staff team, *The Overdues*, has raised money in-house and donned the blades for this event. The library's mobile driver, hockey player John Lawrence, was the captain this year.

The Library has received a one year grant from Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) to hire a Community Access Program (CAP) co-ordinator for the region. David Peterson has been in this position since March 6. His is one of three county co-ordinator positions that will be responsible for coordinating CAP sites in the North Shore of Nova Scotia.

This March the library was fortunate to obtain a $500 grant from the Arthritis Society of Nova Scotia to purchase a couch and chair for the Truro Branch. The furniture will be placed next to some large windows and close to the large print collection.

Cumberland Regional Library (CRL)

Events & Publicity

For Canada Book Day, April 27, CRL is hosting a Canadian Literature Trivia Contest in the Amherst Daily News. Contestants can submit their answers on the official entry form in the newspaper prior to April 27 and contest winners will be announced on Canada Book Day. Prizes will include gift certificates for Coles or Chapters as well as a newspaper subscription.

Computer Access Project (CAP)

The Springhill branch is now a CAP site. The grand opening was held March 16. The Springhill Library site now boasts a scanner and a digital camera in addition to extra computers, and Melissa Terris has been hired on a 32 week Youth Internship program to provide training to the public. The River Hebert CAP site's grand opening will be April 3. This site is in a room adjacent to the library. The Town of Oxford has formed a CAP committee and will be submitting an application shortly.

Eastern Counties Regional Library

Many library activities are occuring in our communities this spring. In Chapel Island and on Isle Madame, two literacy projects have been successful in promoting family reading and in linking together children and adult book buddies. Further projects are planned which will build on this initiative.

As well as special children's activities for spring break, Saint Patrick's Day, Earth Day and National Poetry Month, the library had special activities for our adult patrons. In March, Reverend Kelsey met with Guysborough residents at the Cyril Ward Memorial Library to discuss the lives of the early black settlers of the County. A viewing of the Department of Education film *Escape to Nova Scotia* is planned for April in Lincolnville.

Thanks to a Canada Council grant, Sheldon Curry is among our guests this spring. Many people are looking forward to learning more about the story which prompted the popular film *Margaret's Museum*. Mr. Curry will be visiting three branch libraries in May.

In smaller communities, outreach staff have been busy holding rural services together and providing service in challenging conditions. The Board is currently considering all possible options and once the budget is known, long-term service alternatives should be in place by the fall.

Halifax Regional Library

Poetry is in the air this April !

After a successful debut in 1999, National Poetry Month is back for the year 2000. The Halifax Regional Library is pleased to host a collection of local poets to celebrate the month: a reading from Governor General's Literary Award Nominee, **Lynn Davies** and a line-up of readings for children with Nova Scotian writers, **Jenni Blackmore**, **Deirdre Dwyer**, **Susan Goyette**, **Sheree Fitch** and **Carol Langille.** Poets will share some of their work, plus their inspirations for writing and hints for budding poets and writers.

The Spring Garden Road Public Library welcomes Lynn Davies on Wednesday, April 26 at 7:30 pm. Davies, nominated for the Governor General's Literary Award for Poetry, will share her collection **The Bridge That Carries the Road.** This reading has been made possible with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts and the League of Canadian Poets.

Canada Book Day Thursday, April 27, 2000

World Book Day was declared by UNESCO in 1995, and since then has been celebrated around the globe. That same year Canada Book Day was born. In celebration of writing in and about Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada, shortlists for several writing awards will be announced. The Halifax Regional Library, the Halifax Regional Municipality, and the Dartmouth Book & Writing Awards Steering Committee will announce the fiction and non-fiction shortlists for the 2000 **Dartmouth Book Awards.** The Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Library Association will announce shortlists for the following awards: the **Thomas Head Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award**, the **Evelyn Richardson Prize for Non-fiction**, the **Atlantic Poetry Prize**, and the **Ann Connor Brimer Award for Children's Literature**. Prizes will be awarded at the Atlantic Writing Awards celebration in May.

For more information call the Halifax Regional Library at 490-5887. Watch for the May-June issue of the ***Library Guide*** for the names of the shortlisted titles and nominated authors for this group of Atlantic Canadian writing awards.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

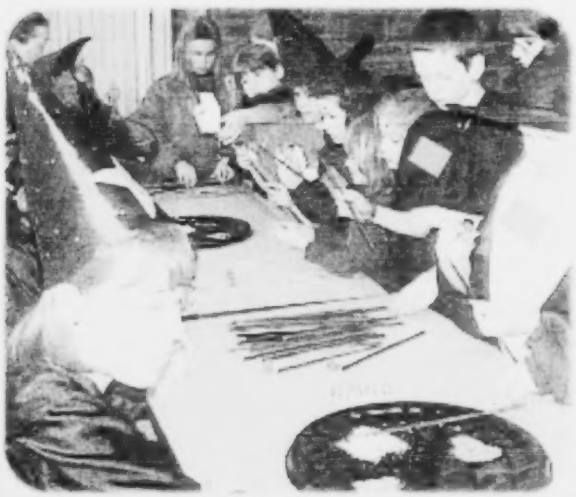
The River John CAP Committee recently purchased two computers for the River John Library to replace older models. The two computers replaced will be used by project workers. The Committee has applied for some interesting community based projects that will hopefully be up and running in the near future. Committee member Janice Gill of River John is shown here instructing on the use of Word Perfect.

On February 3, a public meeting was held in River John concerning the proposed new River John Library and Innovation Centre. There were approximately 100 people attending from the community including Muriel Baillie MLA; representatives from Pictou County Council; Library Board members Mary MacLellan (Chair) and Paul Veniot; PRDC Community Economic Development; TSS, etc. The community was overwhelmingly in favor of the project and formed a Fundraising Committee. Peggy Hiscock will represent the Board on this Committee.

The New Glasgow Library was recently a recipient of a bequest from Mr. James Norman Murray's estate. The Library received $17,000 in total to be used for children's and youth library material.

Western Counties Regional Library

March Break



Wizards, magic wands, face painting and Hogwart games were all part of the fun at the Harry Potter Parties held during March Break. Children ages 6 and up tested their skill and balance during the golden ball relay; tapped into their creative side by designing their own magic wand; challenged their taste buds in a guessing game with a variety of powdered flavours, and tried to guess the number of jelly beans in a bottle. When the Harry Potter Party was over the participants received a 'diploma' from Hogwarts school of Wizardry & Witchcraft. With goody bags in hand, the 'graduates' of Hogwarts 2000 were already looking forward to attending the class of 2001.

Computer Training

Devon Clarimont, a grade 9 student from Maple Grove Education Centre, volunteered his time (10 am - 4 pm) during March Break to offer one-on-one computer training at the Yarmouth branch library. Appointments were encouraged, and as a result, Devon was very busy each day. He is seen here tutoring Hazel MacDonald.

Cap Site Approved

Funding for the CAP site for the Pubnico library has been approved. This brings to seven the number of CAP sites at libraries across the region. An application has been made to the Nova Scotia Technology & Science Secretariat, and Industry Canada for a CAP site for the Clare branch in Meteghan.

THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Information Rights and Personal Privacy

Can I get my personnel file? What contracts has the government signed? Can I get a copy of an environmental report? These are the kinds of questions that are handled by the Province's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) administrator.

The basic premise of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* is that all government information should be available. This is balanced with the second basic premise: that personal information held by the government should not be released if it is an invasion of personal privacy. It is the FOIPOP administrator's job to determine which things can be released, and which cannot.

There are time limits under the Act which govern how quickly applications must be processed. For instance, the applicant must be given notice within thirty days about the department's decision.

There is a $5 fee to apply, and the applicant can be asked to pay for staff time, copying, and shipping and handling. The fees allowed are $20 per hour for staff time, and 20¢ per page for photocopying. The first two hours are provided free of charge, and there is no charge if the applicant is looking for her/his own personal information.

Once the applicant pays the fees, the records are collected and the FOIPOP administrator examines all of the records. With the Act as guide to what can and cannot be made public, the administrator decides which sections cannot be released. These sections are "severed". The records, minus any "severed" sections, are then sent to the applicant.

Should the applicant disagree with the department's response, she/he has the right to appeal to the FOIPOP Review Officer, Darce Fardy. Mr. Fardy then has the job of adjudicating the appeal and recommending a course of action to the department.

Each department in the Nova Scotia government has someone who handles FOIPOP requests. Within the Department of Education, FOIPOP administration is the responsibility of the Information Management Administrator, a position in the Research, Statistics and Information Management Division of the Policy Branch. Andrea John is returning to this position on May 1, 2000.

Information Rights Week 2000: 3 - 10 April 2000 is an ideal time to talk about Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy, and the balance between the public right to know, and protection of personal privacy.

NOVANET NEWS

Novanet, the library consortium of post-secondary institutions, continues to expand its membership, enhance its services, and plan for the future as it enters its thirteenth year.

In December, 1998, the Nova Scotia Community College joined Novanet. In May, 1999, the Nova Scotia Agriculture College became Novanet's tenth member. The other members are the Atlantic School of Theology, Dalhousie University, Mount Saint Vincent University, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Saint Mary's University, St. Francis Xavier University, University College of Cape Breton, and University of King's College.

With its new members, Novanet now serves 26 library and learning resource centre sites ranging from Yarmouth to Sydney, from Halifax to Springhill, and numerous points in between. The Novanet online catalogue provides access to almost two million items held by the member institutions. These combined holdings constitute one of the major post-secondary research collections in Canada for 40,000 full time equivalent students, faculty and staff. Any other Nova Scotian also has access by acquiring a Novanet off-campus borrower card. The consortium's Novanet Express courier and fax-based document delivery service filled over 15,500 requests in 1999, a 62% increase over 1998.

A range of Novanet-wide circulation policies were recently implemented. Library users can now return books and pay fines at any Novanet library. As well, they can renew items and place holds for specific volumes through the Web Novanet catalogue.

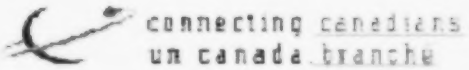
Novanet has just completed its third strategic planning exercise resulting in the Novanet Plan 2000-2002 and Action Plans, which are available at **http://novanet.ns.ca**. The Plan consists of a mission statement, guiding principles, and strategic objectives - with specific goals for achieving the strategic objectives. Two task forces were created as a result of the planning process: the Task Force on Library Management System Options (to report March 31) and the Task Force on Electronic Resources (to report October 1). The Novanet Management Committee has also established a Working Group on Distance Education to examine how the consortium can contribute to enhancing library services for distant education students.

Dramatic developments in information technology, telecommunications, and electronic publishing are fostering an increasing interest and growth in library consortia in Canada and elsewhere. Accordingly, Novanet is eager to explore new memberships and partnerships in and outside of Nova Scotia with all types of libraries and other information providers. Furthermore, it is an active participant in such national and international groups as Consortia Canada at **http://novanet.ns.ca/consort** and the International Coalition of Library Consortia at **http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia**.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR NETWORK SUPPORT PROGRAM (VolNet)

Getting Voluntary Organizations On-Line

The Voluntary Sector Network Support Program (VolNet) is a federal government initiative administered by Industry Canada to improve the voluntary sector's access to information technology. VolNet's goal is to offer Internet connectivity, including computer equipment and Internet skills development and support to 10,000 voluntary organizations by March 31, 2001.



The Volunteer Resource Centre has been designated the lead delivery agency in Nova Scotia, however, it is the joint effort of four organizations: the Metro United Way, Chebucto Community Net, the Volunteer Resource Centre and *Nova*Knowledge. The objectives of the program are to increase the number of voluntary organizations connected to the Internet and also to increase their awareness of the benefits and importance of the Internet.

To date over 55 organizations have been accepted into the program in Halifax Regional Municipality with a target of 125 province-wide. Representatives from over 15 of these organizations have already attended basic Internet skills development at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library Lab. The skills development focuses on connecting to the Internet, search techniques and web sites specific to the voluntary sector and use of e-mail. In total it is expected that 275 participants from 150 organizations will attend the Internet skills development workshops.

VolNet is opening Internet and technology access to an even larger number of Nova Scotians by inviting voluntary organizations that are not eligible for the program to attend the Internet skills development classes free of charge and access to a new computer system at a reduced price.

More information on the program is available on the VolNet web site: **www.volnet.org** or by phoning Shauna Selig, Project Assessment Coordinator, at (902)423-1368.

News from the School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS)

This column is the first of a series from the School of Library and Information Studies at Dalhousie University in Halifax. SLIS students and faculty are engaged in a wide variety of innovative projects which we'll be telling you about through this column. For example, students in the Fall 1999 Marketing course created a redesigned web site for Chebucto Community Net, proposing a more easily negotiated site, with an updated look. This term,

students in the Multimedia Systems course are creating multimedia products on topics as diverse as the Halifax Explosion, Fairy Tales, and Shakespeare's *Othello*. In our Records Management course, students are working with a range of organizations to establish records management programs. One student team is working in our Information Retrieval course to design a personal digital library and information retrieval system for a client, a system which will serve as the client's "one stop shopping" information source. In the Children's Literature class, students are conducting multimedia story times for children between 18 months and 5 years of age. In the Information Policy course, students are exploring the policy implications of e-commerce, intellectual property rights on the net, and the "digital divide", among others.

This list is just an introduction to the creativity and talents of our students. Future columns will describe more student and faculty projects. We're always interested to hear from our community. Contact our Director, Bertrum MacDonald, at macdonal@is.dal.ca, (902) 494-2472. And please visit our web site at **http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis**.

Canadian Asssociation of Special Libraries and Information Services (CASLIS)

CASLIS, a division of the Canadian Library Association (CLA), has an ambitious plan to raise membership from 1,000 to 2,000 members in the year 2000. Every person who joins strengthens the organization. There are promotions for first-year memberships and for students so the annual fees vary. Membership fees are also tax-deductible and there are all kinds of event discounts, including Atlantic Canada. It was said at a recent American Library Association conference that organizational members tend to receive more promotions and experience less unemployment.

Meetings and workshops are efficient ways to stay current with new developments. Some are held in the daytime and some in the evening. CASLIS events count as training! Since September 1999, CASLIS Atlantic Chapter has offered workshops on topics such as knowledge management and negotiating electronic licences. There are also lots of opportunities to socialize!

CASLIS and CLA have been active in lobbying on issues such as copyright. Why not join CASLIS and have the chance to make an impact at the national level?

For more information, please contact Andrea John, President, c/o Nova Scotia Department of Education, 902-424-2793 or email johnae@gov.ns.ca. Visit the webpage at **http://www.cla.ca/divsites/caslis/divnote.htm**.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

Street Smart 9 to 5

A two day Street Smart 9 to 5 training program was presented to 14 staff members from Nova Scotia regional libraries by Donna Hendy, Training and Development Consultant with the Department of Education's Human Resources Division. Street Smart 9 to 5 is a program that helps people develop the skills to defuse and avoid violence in the workplace, whether from other employees or members of the public. This program was developed by the Crisis Prevention Institute at **http://www.crisisprevention.com**.

Many regional public library staff work on public service desks, and such skills can be useful. This training session was set up to give selected staff an opportunity to evaluate the value of such sessions for other staff. Given the large number of frontline staff in regional public libraries, if there is sufficient interest in this training, it could be worthwhile developing Street Smart trainers from within the library community.

Donna will be presenting a one day version of the Street Smart training at the NSLA conference at White Point Beach in October.

Nova Scotia's Summer Reading Programme Update

This Nova Scotia Summer Reading Programme 2000 theme is **Sail Away With Books/Cap Sur La Lecture.** There will be a Kick Off Week media event aboard either the Highlander or the Bluenose, both of which will be in Halifax the last week in June. As a SRP midsummer prize, a tour aboard one of the Tallships for a child and caregiver from each region has been arranged on Saturday July 22, along with additional visits aboard various Tallships through the Auxillary Ports Committee. Discussions regarding the tours are taking place, with confirmation of the details by May 1, 2000. The Summer Reading Programme Committee has obtained permission to use the Tallships 2000 logo, with a waiver of the 15% license fee and will be displaying SRP posters at Tallships 2000 venues.

Orders for the SRP t-shirts, sweatshirts, mousepads, buttons, posters, pencils, bookmarks, fridge magnets and stickers have been placed. The t-shirts and sweats this year are a dark blue. All promotional material is expected to arrive the first week in May.

South Shore Regional Library Tour

On March 2, Michael Colborne spent the day visiting branches of the South Shore Regional Library, with Regional Librarian Janet Clark and SSRL board member Bernadette Schmid. Libraries in Lunenburg, Bridgewater, and Liverpool were included in the visit, as well as SSRL Headquarters in Hebbville and a mobile library.

Staffing Notes

Michael Purcell has joined the Technical Services group at Nova Scotia Provincial Library as the Automation Specialist to replace Johanna Cooper. Work started for Mike on March 20 with a visit to the Liverpool Branch where on line circulation is starting. Mike previously worked for McInnes Cooper as a network analyst. Prior to that Mike worked in the computer services department of the Burlington Public Library. Mike is looking forward to seeing Nova Scotia outside of South End Halifax. Michael Vandenburg leaves on March 31 to move to Philadelphia. He has seen most of the regional branch libraries during his work time at Nova Scotia Provincial Library and will be missed for his dedication to all of his projects.

Two Canada World Youth students, Annie Pomerleau and Anya Tsymbalyi finished up a two month work term in the User Services Section, working on the Nova Scotia Provincial Library homepage. Anne-marie Henry and Alexy Tokarev worked in the Learning Resources and Technology Section during the same period. We wish them luck in their future endeavours back in Quebec and Russia.

Training Notes

Inter-Library Loan Workshop

Twenty-one staff from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and public regional libraries attended a session on mutual interests and concerns on March 20 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. It was a useful opportunity for inter-library loan (ILL) staff from across the province to share ideas and experiences. Topics discussed included Library Book Rate, copyright and genealogy requests. It will be useful for the group to meet again once all the regions are automated. Some activities generated by this meeting include standard statistics forms and ILL software.

Regular Staff Training Workshops

Frank Oram in the User Services Section of the Provincial Library conducted a training workshop in March on *Current Awareness Sources* for eight staff members of the Nova Scotia Community College and the regional libraries. Gillian Webster held one session each on *Using FolioViews with the Statutes of Canada*, *Re-visiting Search Engines* and *Canadian Job Searching on the Internet*. Carol Morris held a session called *Sources of Company Information*.

HOT TIPS & UPDATES

Information Power videoconference

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library provided viewing of the teleconference **Information Power: What is it, How to know it when you see it, How to use it in your library,** on March 24, 2000. The thirty-one audience members at the Provincial Library downlink site heard from library staff from a variety of work environments. Practical tips for empowering library staff and increasing their visibility in the workplace were explored. Personal, professional and technical core competencies for library support staff were discussed and the importance of creating and maintaining a professional portfolio was stressed. A demonstration was given of three security software programs for public access computers (Fortres, WinSelect and Window Washer). A dubbing of the teleconference is available for viewing within the Nova Scotia Provincial Library building. Please contact Frank Oram for information about viewing at 424-2480 or oramfl@gov.ns.ca.

Directory of Nova Scotia Libraries

The most up-to-date and comprehensive listing of libraries and archival institutions is now available. The Directory of Nova Scotia Libraries, year 2000 edition, provides a listing of over 280 library, archival and related institutions in Nova Scotia. Entries provide comprehensive data including subjects collected, hours, key staff names, mailing address, telephone, fax, Email address, website address and interlibrary loan information. Detailed appendices provide additional information.

The directory is available on-line at **http://www.library.ns.ca**, as well as in print format. Libraries which are full deposit or selective deposit libraries under the Nova Scotia Government document distribution system are eligible to receive one print copy of this directory, free of charge. Others may purchase a copy in print or WordPerfect format for $10.00 Canadian plus applicable taxes. Orders should be addressed to: Judy Naugler, Phone: 902-424-2454; Fax: 902-424-0633 ; Email: nauglejr@gov.ns.ca. Payment may be made by cheque or money order and must be made payable to: Minister of Finance.

Hackmatack Finalists on the Web

The Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award is an Atlantic Canadian book award that allows children to choose their favourite Canadian and Atlantic Canadian books. In the February issue, we featured the sixth article about the 1999-2000 Fiction Shortlist and the 1999-2000 Non-Fiction Shortlist. In this issue, the fiction title is *The Token GIft* by Hugh William McKibbon and Scott Cameron (Reading Level: Grade 4; Interest level all ages), and the non-fiction title is *The Monster from the Swamp* by C. J. Taylor (Reading Level: Grade 4; Interest level 3 to 6). Visit the Hackmatack page and read the book descriptions at or at visit the website at **http://www.hackmatack.ca/books.html.**

Cultural Career Connections

This all-day event at Pier 21 on March 23 brought university and college students together with the cultural community to talk about careers in arts and culture. The Nova Scotia Provincial Library, Dalhousie University School of Library and Information Studies and Halifax Regional Library were among the many exhibitors. One of the event consultants was the Nova Scotia Cultural Network, which has a website at **www.culture.ns.ca**.

Information Rights Week

The Canadian Library Association (CLA) announced that April 3-10, 2000 is Information Rights Week in Canada. This is the seventh annual Information Rights Week, and this year's theme, *Information Matters; Evaluate it before you use it*, is selected to focus public attention on assessing the integrity and reliability of information resources in traditional and new media. Accuracy, authenticity, objectivity and currency are key factors in the verification and validation of information resources, most particularly in the context of the proliferation of new web sites appearing daily on the Internet. There are lots of sites which complement this year's theme and a sample appears below:

For further information about Information Rights Week in Canada, contact Leacy O'Callaghan-O'Brien at Tel: 613-232-9625 or email lobrien@cla.ca.

B.C. Information Policy Conference, April 2000 at **http://www.vcn.bc.ca/bcla-ip/irw.html**.

Libraries and the Internet Toolkit from the American Library Association at **http://www.ala.org/internettoolkit**.

Evaluating Internet Information from LibraryNet,(Industry Canada, 1998) at

http://www.schoolnet.ca/ln-rb/e/training/eval.html.

REFERENCE ON THE NET

More reference questions referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries which were answered from resources found on the Internet.

Q. What was the value of Placer Dome Inc. stock on October 24th, 1997?

A. The *Big Charts* site at **http://www.bigcharts.com/** is useful for finding historical stock quotes for American and internationally based companies. Key in "Placer Dome" in the "Enter Symbol or Keywords" box and click on "Quick Chart". This brings up a page which gives the stock symbol for Placer Dome which is "PDG". You can then click on "Historical Quotes" near the top of the page. Then in the "Enter Symbol" box key in "PDG" and in the "Enter Date" box key in "24/10/97" to retrieve the quote for Placer Dome stock on that date.

Q. Would like information about a painting called "Hiawatha's Wedding Journey" by J.L.G Ferris.

A. After identifying that the artist, Jean Leon Gerome Ferris was an American in print sources, the Smithsonian American Art Museum Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture at **http://www.siris.si.edu/webpac-bin/wgbroker?032008515500132752 5+-access+top.siari** was searched for information on this painting. At this page you can search by title for "Hiawatha's Wedding Journey" and the search retrieves the record for it which has some descriptive information about the painting.

Previous "Reference on the Net" columns can be found in a file on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at **http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/brochure/refser.html**.

LINKed

April is a month filled with events which celebrate books and the love of reading starting with Information Rights Week which the Canadian Library Association has announced to be from April 3 - 10. Canada Book Day is on April 27 and there is a web site for it at **http://www.canadabookday.com**. April is also National Poetry Month and the web site of the League of Canadian Poets at http://www.poets.ca has a list of events taking place across Canada, as well as ideas for events which can be held in libraries and bookstores. A useful part of the League's site is "Who's Who in the League of Canadian Poets" which has members' pictures, biographical information, bibliographies and awards. Some other sites of interest to Canadian readers and writers are featured below. Previous "Linked" columns can be found in a file on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at **http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/brochure/refser.html**. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at morrisc@gov.ns.ca.

The University of Toronto Canadian Poets site at **http://www.library.utoronto.ca/canpoetry/index_poet.htm** has information on major Contemporary Canadian Poets as well as Representative Poetry On-line, a searchable fulltext publication which has 2,100 English poems by 331 poets including some Canadian poets.

The Writers Federation of Nova Scotia web site at **http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Culture/WritersFed** has an archive of material from the newsletter including "Caught in the Web" which is a monthly column about internet sites of interest to writers. The Markets section lists Periodicals, and Book Publishers/Distributors and the Resources section has links to an extensive list of on-line resources for writers arranged by category. Another very useful feature is a large list of Nova Scotian writers with biographical information and lists of their books.

The Canadian Magazine Publishers Association homepage at **http://www.cmpa.ca/maghome.html** has a useful list of over 250 Canadian magazines with information on each and links to their web sites

The Writers' Union of Canada at **http://www.swifty.com/twuc** has biographies and pictures of members, advice for writers on getting published and publications on this and the business of writing which can be purchased from them. There is also information on the writing competitions which the Union holds.

At the Canadian Booksellers Association site at **http://www.cbabook.org** the Coast to Coast Bestsellers page has weekly listings of top Hardcover Fiction, Paperback Fiction, Non-Fiction and a final category which rotates between Children's, Business, and Canadian books.

PROFESSIONAL READING

In this month's column, two books on the topic of intellectual freedom are being featured. These books should be of particular interest to public libraries. These items can be borrowed through regular interlibrary loan channels. Please send requests via email to Dale MacMillan at **inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca.**

Jones, Barbara M. **Libraries, access and intellectual freedom**. Chicago: American Library Association, 1998. [Call # Prof 025 .213 Jon]
The central theme of this book is that how well librarians respond to censorship challenges depends in large part on the planning and policy making that have gone on beforehand. Libraries, Access and Intellectual Freedom is a comprehensive guide to the key intellectual freedom "hot buttons" and the legal issues involved. This book offers a practical approach to developing, promoting and implementing intellectual freedom policies.

Speaking Out!: Voices in Celebration of Intellectual Freedom. Edited by Ann K. Symons and Sally Gardner Reed. Chicago: American Library Association, 1999. [Call # Prof 323 .44 Spe]
This book is intended to be a source of inspiration and motivation to those who find themselves in the midst of challenges to intellectual freedom in their libraries. It is comprised of inspirational quotes contributed by library leaders and other prominent Americans. Each quote is followed by an explanation by its contributor as to why it is so meaningful in the context of promoting and preserving intellectual freedom.

Credits - Thanks go to the following contributors this month:

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